enact a law to ensure accountability of judges and judicial officers as a part of its efforts to reform judicial administration in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) whether Government are going to amend the existing Judges Inquiry Act, 1968, or, to enact altogether a fresh legislation on this subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Government proposes to set up a National Judicial Council which will receive complaints against the Judges and conduct investigation as to whether the complaint is frivolous, vexatious or is not made in good faith or whether there are sufficient grounds for investigation into the complaint.

The Judicial Officers are governed by the conduct rules as made applicable by the respective State Governments to which their services belong to.

(b) and (c) The modalities for setting up of the National Judicial Council, in consultation with all the stake holders, are being worked out.

Setting up of Family Courts

160. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family courts set-up in various parts of the country so far, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed off by the family courts during each of the last three years;

(c) whether Government have issued any direction to the State Governments to set up family courts in each district within the scheduled timeframe;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the States which have set up family courts in each districts as on date; and

(f) the steps taken by Government to overcome the problems being faced in setting up of family courts in each districts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) A Statement-I is given (*See* below).

(b) A Statement-II is given (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The recommendation made in the 6th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances and Ministry of Law & Justice (Department of Justice), were circulated to all State Governments in June, 2005 that a target should be fixed for establishing at least one Family Court in each district so as to resolve family disputes and related matters expeditiously.

(e) As per the information available, no State Govt. has set up Family Court in every district of the State.

(f) In order to encourage the State Governments to set up Family Court in each district this Department is providing funds under centrally sponsored scheme on 50:50 basis from 2002-03. As per the scheme, Rs. 10 lakhs per court under Plan are provided for setting up of Family Court and Rs. 5 lakhs per court under Non-Plan are provided for the recurring expenditure of family courts.

Statement-I

No. of Family Courts established in the country

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Total number of Family Courts
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8
2.	Assam	5
3.	Bihar	4
4.	Chhattisgarh	11
5.	Delhi	15
6.	Gujarat	7
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
8.	Jharkhand	6
9.	Karnataka	12
10.	Kerala	16

1	2	3
11.	Madhya Pradesh	7
12.	Maharashtra	18
13.	Manipur	2
14.	Nagaland	2
15.	Orissa	2
16.	Pondicherry	1
17.	Punjab	2
18.	Rajasthan	6
19.	Sikkim	1
20.	Tamil Nadu	6
21.	Tripura	1
22.	Uttar Pradesh	14
23.	Uttaranchal	7
24.	West Bengal	3
	TOTAL:	157

Statement-II

State-wise deails of the number of cases disposed of by Family Courts as on 31.12.2004

Name of the State	Disposal		
	During 2002	During 2003	During 2004
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	4715	4736	3025(30.9)
Assam	688	733	700(30.9)
Bihar	537	1026	1648
Chhattisgarh	*	*	69
Gujarat	4399	4548	4428
Jharkhand	1281	2062	**
Karnataka	5983	6132	5825

1	2	3	4
Kerala	11636	17240	18810
M.P.	*	2453	1985(30.6)
Maharashtra	15103	15488	15940
Manipur	276	186(30.6)	**
Orissa	1890	2260	1816
Sikkim	188	117	30(31.3)
Tamil Nadu	6956	9827	11628
Tripura	*	*	446
Uttar Pradesh	19723	20042	22610
Uttaranchal	1212	3497	3110
West Bengal	471	418	**
Pondcherry	691	528	676
Total	64798	94832	92367

*Not started functioning.
** Not received.

Strategies to clear pending cases

161. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of cases are pending in various courts in the country for years;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last five years, court-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether Government are considering to set up additional benches or create dedicated courts to deal with a particular genre of cases, say service matters or financial matters, or transferring the cases that are more than five years of Fast Track Courts, with a view to liquidating the pending cases and speeding up disposal of cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) A Statement is given (*See* below).